



August 19, 2005

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: **Notice of Ex Parte Statement**
WT Docket No. 01-309

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 19, 2005, Harold Salters and Shellie Blakeney, on behalf of T-Mobile USA, Inc. (T-Mobile), spoke via telephone with Angela Giancarlo of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division. The purpose of the conversation was to discuss our efforts to meet the September 16, 2005, benchmark for Tier I carriers set forth in the above-referenced docket on hearing aid compatibility (HAC). It is now apparent that T-Mobile will be unable to meet the September 16th benchmark set forth in Section 20.19 of the Commission's Rules.

We are working diligently to comply with the upcoming benchmark. We recently learned that handsets operating in the 1900 MHz band that we originally anticipated would pass TCB testing, have instead failed. This new development magnifies the scope of the problem with achieving HAC compliance for all GSM handsets. Problems associated with attaining HAC compliance for GSM handsets now apparently extend beyond the 850 MHz band to 1900 MHz band handsets as well. Due to these difficulties and given the short timeframe for testing handsets, we will not be able to secure adequate inventories of HAC compliant phones in a timely manner. Despite these challenges, we stand committed to serving the hearing impaired community and will continue efforts to work with our vendors to identify and offer an appropriate number of HAC compliant handsets.

Pursuant to Commission Rule 1.49(f), this ex parte letter is being filed electronically via the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System for inclusion in the public record of the above-referenced docket.

Sincerely,

/s/Shellie Blakeney
Senior Counsel, Federal Regulatory Affairs

cc (via *electronic mail*)
Julie Knapp
Catherine Seidel
Nicole McGinnis
Michael Wilhelm
Angela Giancarlo